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ABSTRACT

Temple University has been the transfer institute most frequently attended by Community College of Philadelphia graduates and former students. This report provides short and long-term persistence rates of college students who transfer to Temple University (Pennsylvania). During fall semesters between 1988 and 1998, 22,248 students were admitted to Temple with transfer standing. Included among this total are 7662 (34.4%) students who had attended CCP prior to transferring to Temple. Of the fall 1998 cohort of CCP transfers, 92.7% re-enrolled at Temple in the spring 1999 semester or graduated. This figure represents the first fall cohort of CCP transfers to persist at greater levels than all transfers to Temple (90.3%). Over the last decade, there has been a trend of improved persistence by CCP transfers. Three-quarters of recent CCP transfer students returned to Temple for the subsequent fall term. In recent years (1997 and 1998), no transfers, CCP or otherwise, were dismissed by Temple because of poor academic performance. In prior years, CCP transfers were more likely than all transfers to experience academic difficulties at Temple University. Within three years of transferring to Temple, 27.5% of the fall 1996 cohort of CCP transfers graduated. The new articulation agreement between CCP and Temple may have positively affected the persistence behavior of the CCP transfers. An appendix contains charts on transfer students. (JA)

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COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF PHILADELPHIA

Temple University Persistence Rates for Community College of Philadelphia Transfer Students

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Report #118

December 2000

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Temple University Persistence Rates for
Community College of Philadelphia Transfer Students

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Historically, Temple University has been the transfer institution most frequently attended by Community College of Philadelphia graduates and former students. Information concerning the progress of CCP transfers while enrolled at Temple University has typically been self-reported by students through annual surveys. Recently, however, Temple provided short- and long-term persistence information about transfers to the University, including students who transferred from CCP. This information is the basis for this Institutional Research report.

During fall semesters between 1988 and 1998, 22,248 students were admitted to Temple University with *Transfer Standing*[1]. Included among this total are 7662 (34.4%) students who had attended Community College of Philadelphia prior to transferring to Temple. Short-term indicators of persistence at Temple University include persistence to the next spring and fall semesters and academic dismissal by the end of the first spring semester. Graduation rates at the end of three and five years were the long-term persistence indicators. This information is presented for *All Transfers* to Temple, which includes every student admitted with Transfer Standing between fall 1988 and 1998, as well as *CCP Transfers*, which includes students who attended the College.

Of the fall 1998 cohort of *CCP Transfers*, 92.7% reenrolled at Temple University in the spring 1999 semester or graduated. This figure represents the first fall cohort of

[1] To be admitted to Temple University with Transfer Standing a student had to transfer at least 15 credits into the University.

CCP Transfers to persist at greater levels than *All Transfers* to the University (90.3%). As depicted in Figure 1 (in the Appendix), over the last decade there has been a trend of improved persistence by *CCP Transfers*.

In addition to improved persistence to the next semester, the one-year persistence rates for recent fall cohorts of *CCP Transfers* are also higher than historical levels (Figure 2). Three-quarters of recent CCP transfer students returned to Temple for the subsequent fall term. This persistence rate compares favorably with that for *All Transfers* who were slightly more likely to persist through the first year after transfer. Most of the students who dropped from Temple in the short-term did so voluntarily. In recent years (1997 and 1998), no transfers, CCP or otherwise, were dismissed by Temple because of poor academic performance (Figure 3). In prior years, *CCP Transfers* were more likely than *All Transfers* to experience academic difficulties at Temple University.

Within three years of transferring to Temple, 27.5% of the fall 1996 cohort of *CCP Transfers* graduated from Temple (Figure 4). While this graduation rate represents a decrease from the rate associated with the fall 1995 cohort, it represents an increase from the years preceding 1995. The most recent five year Temple graduation rate for 1994 *CCP Transfers* is 49.3% and it also represents an increase over the graduation rates for preceding cohorts (Figure 5). Historically, the three and five year graduation rates for all students admitted to Temple with transfer standing were higher than for *CCP Transfers*.

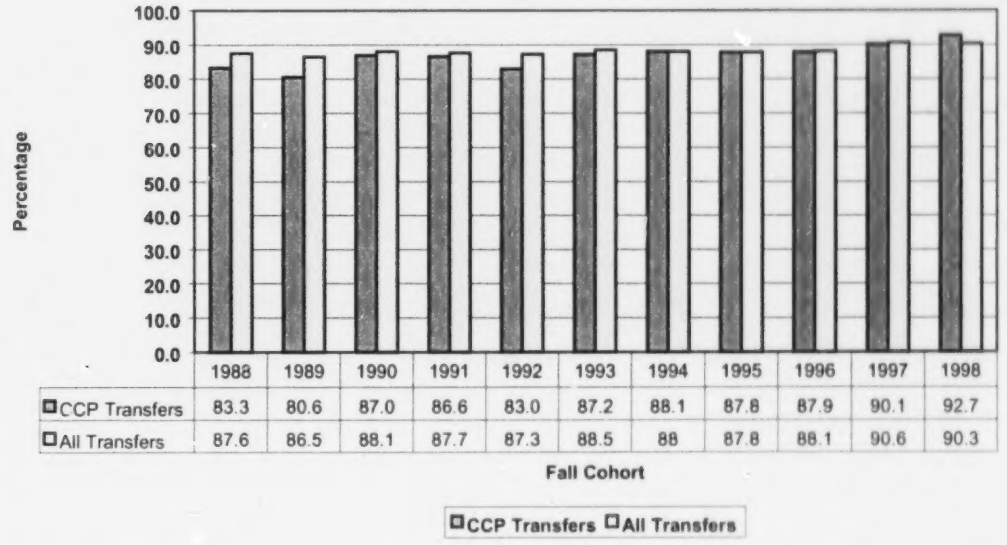
In recent years, CCP students who transferred to Temple University have been more persistent at the University than their predecessors. CCP transfer cohorts have also closed the persistence gap that existed between transfer students from the College and elsewhere. Two factors may have contributed, in part, to these changes. A change in

Temple's admission criteria several years ago likely would have changed the pool of students who were admitted to the University with *Transfer Standing* and therefore the persistence behavior of the transfer cohorts admitted since the change. The information on academic dismissals would seem to support this possibility.

Another concurrent event has been the greater collaboration between Temple and CCP in recent years that culminated in the Temple Dual Admissions Program. It is too soon to attribute the increasingly positive persistence behavior of the recent CCP transfers in this study to the Program per se. However, it is possible that the Program's objective to ensure a seamless transition for the students who transfer to the University, impacted the quality of institutional transfer efforts prior to the actual initiation of the Program thereby positively effecting the persistence behavior of the CCP transfers in this study. If so, the tightly structured articulation agreement now in place should result in the continued improvement of persistence behavior of future CCP transfers at Temple University.

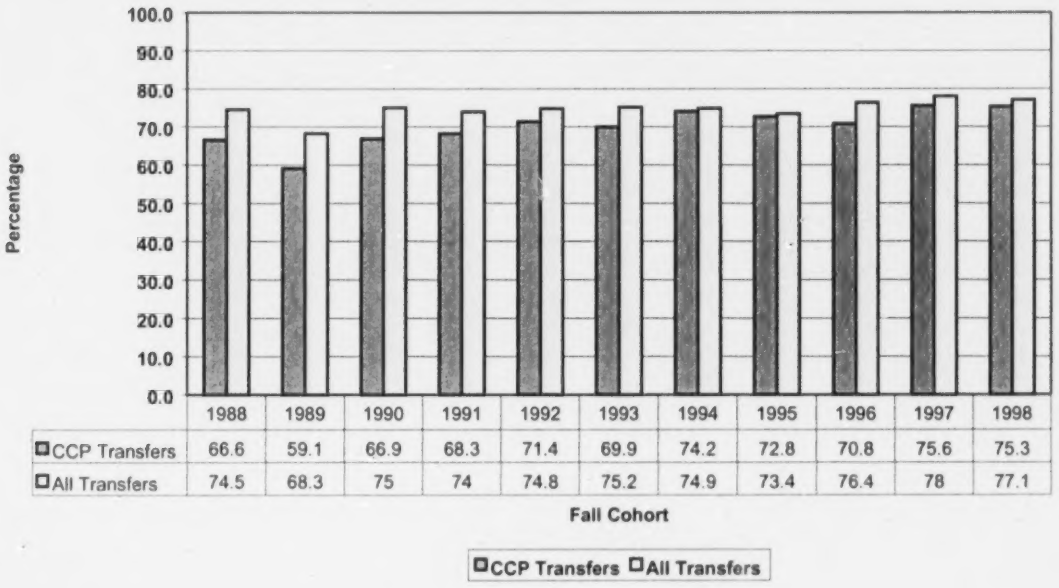
APPENDIX

Figure 1
Percentage of CCP Transfers and All Transfers Who Persisted to the First Spring Semester or Graduated



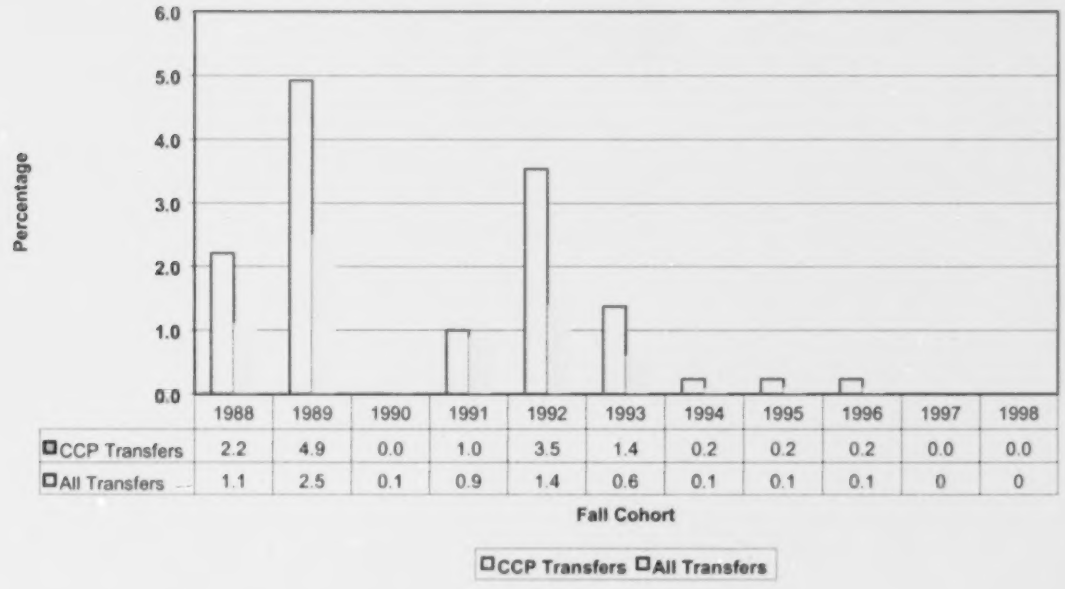
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
CCP Transfers	83.3	80.6	87.0	86.6	83.0	87.2	88.1	87.8	87.9	90.1	92.7
All Transfers	87.6	86.5	88.1	87.7	87.3	88.5	88	87.8	88.1	90.6	90.3

Figure 2
Percentage of CCP Transfers and All Transfers Who Persisted to the Next Fall Semester or Graduated



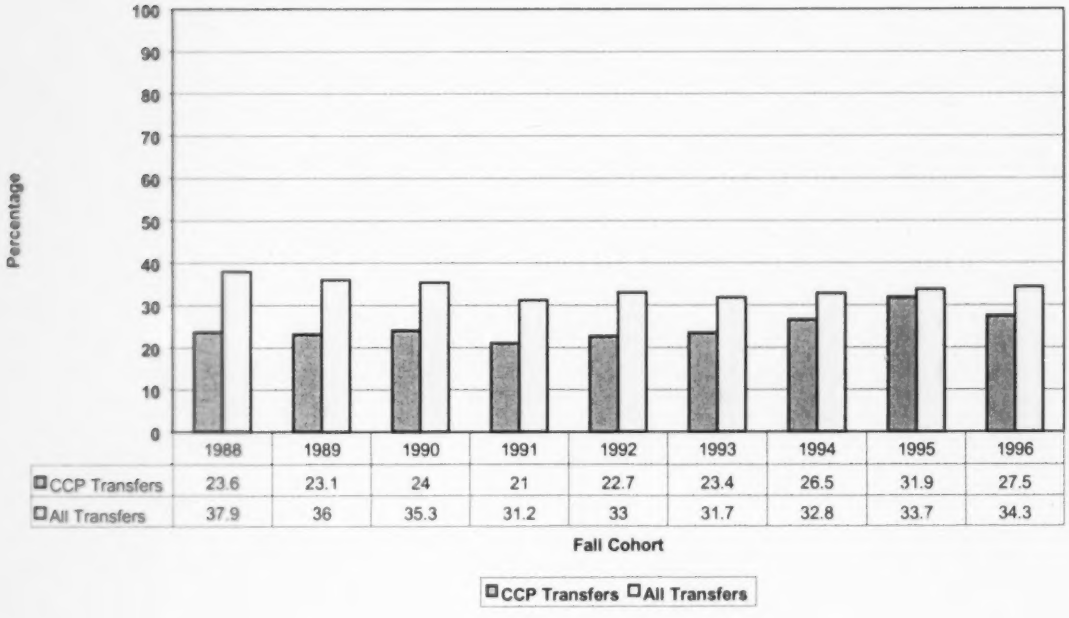
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
CCP Transfers	66.6	59.1	66.9	68.3	71.4	69.9	74.2	72.8	70.8	75.6	75.3
All Transfers	74.5	68.3	75	74	74.8	75.2	74.9	73.4	76.4	78	77.1

Figure 3
Percentage of CCP Transfers and All Transfers Who Were Dismissed by the End of the First Spring Semester



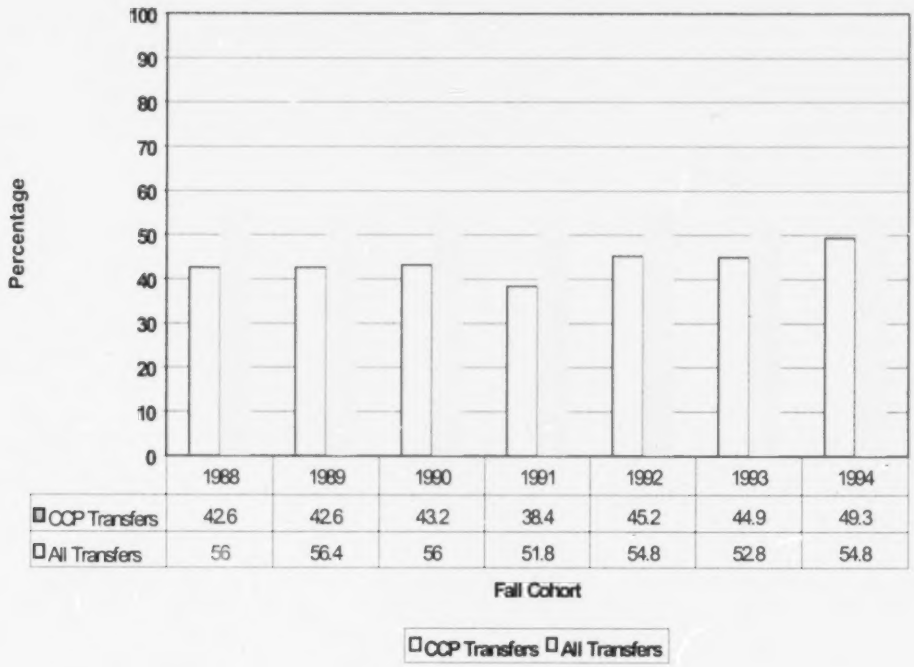
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
CCP Transfers	2.2	4.9	0.0	1.0	3.5	1.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
All Transfers	1.1	2.5	0.1	0.9	1.4	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0

Figure 4
Percentage of CCP Transfers and All Transfers Who Graduated From Temple University in Three or Fewer Years



	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
CCP Transfers	23.6	23.1	24	21	22.7	23.4	26.5	31.9	27.5
All Transfers	37.9	36	35.3	31.2	33	31.7	32.8	33.7	34.3

Figure 5
Percentage of CCP Transfers and All Transfers WhoGraduated From Temple University in Five or Fewer Years



	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
CCP Transfers	42.6	42.6	43.2	38.4	45.2	44.9	49.3
All Transfers	56	56.4	56	51.8	54.8	52.8	54.8